

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address March 26, 2015

“Five year anniversary of Obamacare”

Hello, this is your Congressman Michael Burgess. This week marks the fifth year anniversary of Affordable Care Act being signed into law.

Five years in, it is still a fundamentally flawed and ill-conceived piece of legislation. It has become nothing more than a perfect example of why government should not be involved in health care. In 2010, this hastily-written policy was shoved through Congress with errors, secret deals, loopholes, and without proper debate. Ever since, the institutionalization of this law has been abysmal. Major announcements of delays, deadline extensions, and improperly announced rule changes were buried in blog posts, website FAQs, or the Federal Register.

President Obama makes many claims about current enrollment numbers, but those numbers aren't even half of the full picture. Make no mistake; this law only exacerbates existing problems with our healthcare system.

The bulk of President Obama's figures come from Medicaid – an already-strained program that wasn't coming through on its promises to vulnerable populations.

Don't forget, President Obama also claimed that if you liked your plan, you could keep it. Ever since ACA implementation, more than 6 million people have found that to be untrue. Even worse, those same people were forced to get a new plan with higher premiums and less coverage.

On top of all this, remember that this is not just a health industry issue, it's an every industry issue. The Affordable Care Act's taxes and moving-target regulations are still the single largest threat to job security in America.

I came to Congress to work on policies that would help doctors like me and our patients by reforming a system that wasn't working. As such, I remain committed to the full repeal of this damaging law and implement patient-centered policies that work to safeguard the doctor-patient relationship.

As always, I welcome your questions and comments on this issue. Thank you for taking the time to listen. May God bless you and your family, and as always, may God bless Texas.